WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Central Schemes for Welfare of Maharashtra Farmers

4285. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of farmers living below poverty line in Maharashtra, district-wise;

(b) the details of schemes formulated and implemented by Government for the welfare of farmers in that State; and

(c) the details of funds allotted by Government during the last three years in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) : (a) The Planning Commission estimates percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and state level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey (NSS) Organisation. The last such survey was conducted in the 55th Round of the NSS covering the period July 1999 to June 2000. On the basis of the 30-day recall tabulation in the Key Results of the 55th Round large sample survey of Household Consumer Expenditure in India carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the number and percentage of persons living below poverty line in 1999-2000 in Maharashtra are as under :—

Rural		Urban		Combined	
Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
125.12 lakh	23.72	102.87 lakh	26.81	227.99 lakh	25.02

Separate estimate of district-wise poverty is not available.

(b) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation provide Central assistance through various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as: Oilseed Production Programme; National Pulses Development Project; Accelerated Maize Development Programme; Macro Management; Schemes for Horticulture Development, Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizer, Establishment of Seed Banks, Distribution of Minikits, various extension related programmes and Agriculture Census etc.

(c) Allocation/Releases of funds by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Maharashtra State during the last three years is as under :—

Year	Allocation (Rs. lakhs)
1998-99	12378.62
1999-2000	7928.95
2000-2001	10634.11

Production of Litchis

†4286. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the hectares of land and the areas of the country wherein lichis are produced;

(b) the total production of lichis in various areas/States of the country during the last two years;

(c) whether Government have worked out some specific scheme to encourage production and export of lichi in view of the challenges posed by the WTO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The details of area and production of lichi in different States of the country during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is given in the Statement enclosed (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/ Complementation of States' Efforts through Work Plans under which development of fruits including lichi can be taken up. Under this scheme, the State Governments can prorities their activities and allocate the funds as per the potential and requirement in the Work Plans. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has worked out action plan for qualitative production of lichi for export from Bihar by way of organizing integrated training programmes for farmers, inviting experts from Australia, France

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.